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## FRUIT GROWING IN CANADA,\*

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I wish to speak of the fruit and fruit districts of Canada as these cover the whole, or practically the whole, of Canadian horticulture. The term "horticulture" embraces not only the cultivation, but the amelioration of fruits, plants and vegetables, so that the field occupied by the subject under discussion is exceedingly wide. As originally used, the term horticulture, applied to the cultivation of fruits, flowers and vegetables within circumscribed enclosures, commonly called gardens. Thus we find that the English word garden is derived from the Anglo-Saxon gyrden, to gird or enclose. In like manner the derivation of orchard is found in ortgeard, an enclosure for fruit trees, and again wyrt geard, a garden for the cultivation of vegetables or herbs.

It is difficult to discuss the status of fruit growing in Canada to-day without glancing at the evolution of the art—as it was for centuries previous to the application and study of principles, which raised it to the dignity of a science—not only in Canada, but in the mother countries, for both are intimately connected. There has, and probably always will be some controversy between botanical and horticultural historians regarding the relative antiquity of the two rural and venerable arts, agriculture and horticulture—one side claiming that since agricul-

<sup>\*</sup>An address delivered before the Field-Naturalists' Club, March 11th, 1897.